



2015 SESSION

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Business Page

[Signed by Chairman]

Roll Call

Standing Committee Reports

Tabled Bills

Fiscal Reports

Rolls Call Votes

Proxy Forms

Visitor Registrations

***Any other documents, which were submitted after the committee hearing has ended and/or was submitted late [within 48 hours], regarding information in the committee hearing.**

***Witness Statements that were not presented as exhibits.**

Montana Historical Society Archives

225 N. Roberts

Helena MT 59620-1201

2015 Legislative

E-Document Specialist Susie Hamilton

BUSINESS REPORT

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Date: Friday, February 6, 2015
Place: Capitol

Time: 3:00 PM
Room: 137

BILLS and RESOLUTIONS HEARD:

HB 313 - Revise education laws - Rep. Edith (Edie) McClafferty
HB 321 - Emphasize critical thinking in science education - Rep. Clayton Fiscus

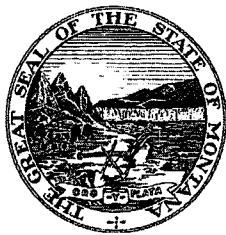
EXECUTIVE ACTION TAKEN:

HB 322 Do Pass As Amended

Comments:



REP. Sarah Laszloffy, Chair



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Friday, Feb. 6, 2015

ROLL CALL

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT/EXCUSED
REP. SARAH LASZLOFFY, CHAIR	✓	
REP. DEBRA LAMM, VICE CHAIR	✓	
REP. EDIE MCCLAFFERTY, VICE CHAIR	✓	
REP. BRYCE BENNETT	✓	
REP. JEFF ESSMANN		✓
REP. MOFFIE FUNK		✓
REP. EDWARD GREEF	✓	
REP. GREG HERTZ		✓
REP. KATHY KELKER	✓	
REP. G. BRUCE MEYERS	✓	
REP. MATTHEW MONFORTON	✓	
REP. JEAN PRICE	✓	
REP. DANIEL SALOMON		✓
REP. NICHOLAS SCHWADERER		✓
REP. SUSAN WEBBER	✓	

15 MEMBERS



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 6, 2015

Page 1 of 2

Mr. Speaker:

We, your committee on Education recommend that House Bill 322 (first reading copy -- white) do pass as amended.

Signed:

Sarah Laszloffy
Representative Sarah Laszloffy, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Title, page 1, line 6 through line 7.

Strike: ", " on line 6

Insert: "AND"

Strike: ", AND COUNTY TREASURERS" on line 7

2. Page 2, line 25.

Strike: subsection (iii) in its entirety

Renumber: subsequent subsections

3. Page 3, line 2.

Strike: "(6) (b) (vi) "

Insert: "(6) (b) (v) "

4. Page 5, line 26.

Strike: "county treasurer and"

5. Page 6, line 18.

Strike: "After receiving notification from"

Insert: "Following receipt of a signed contract pursuant to
[section 4],"

6. Page 6, line 18 through line 20.

Committee Vote:

Yes 8, No 7

Fiscal Note Required X

Strike: "of a" on line 18 through "transfer" on line 20

Insert: "shall withhold"

7. Page 6, line 21.

Strike: "general" through "instruction"

Insert: "BASE aid payments, pursuant to 20-9-344, for the months
of August through May"

8. Page 6, line 28.

Strike: "transferred"

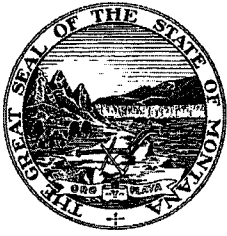
Insert: "withheld"

9. Page 7, line 12.

Strike: "transferred to"

Insert: "withheld by"

- END -



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ROLL CALL VOTE

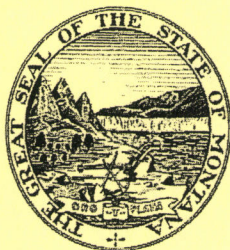
BILL NUMBER HB322

DATE Feb 6, 2015

MOTION Do Pass As Amended
(Motion Passed)

NAME	AYE	NO	PROXY
REP. DEBRA LAMM, VICE CHAIR	✓		
REP. EDIE MCCLAFFERTY, VICE CHAIR		✓	
REP. BRYCE BENNETT		✓	
REP. JEFF ESSMANN	✓		✓
REP. MOFFIE FUNK		✓	
REP. EDWARD GREEF	✓		
REP. GREG HERTZ	✓		✓
REP. KATHY KELKER		✓	
REP. G. BRUCE MEYERS		✓	
REP. MATTHEW MONFORTON	✓		
REP. JEAN PRICE		✓	
REP. DANIEL SALOMON	✓		✓
REP. NICHOLAS SCHWADERER	✓		✓
REP. SUSAN WEBBER		✓	
REP. SARAH LASZLOFFY, CHAIR	✓		

15 MEMBERS



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUTHORIZED COMMITTEE PROXY

I request to be excused from the House Education

Committee because of other commitments. I desire to leave my proxy vote with:

VC - Rep Lamm

Indicate Bill number and your vote Aye or No. If there are amendments, list them by name and number under the bill and indicate a separate vote for each amendment.

BILL/AMENDMENT

AYE

NO

HB 322 as amended	✓	

BILL/AMENDMENT

AYE

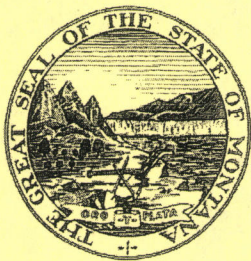
NO

Rep.

[Signature]
(Signature)

Date

2-6-2015



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUTHORIZED COMMITTEE PROXY

I request to be excused from the

House Education

Committee because of other commitments. I desire to leave my proxy vote with:

VC Rep Hamm

Indicate Bill number and your vote Aye or No. If there are amendments, list them by name and number under the bill and indicate a separate vote for each amendment.

BILL/AMENDMENT

AYE

NO

BILL/AMENDMENT

AYE

NO

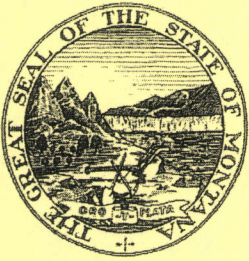
HB 3220s amended	✓	

Rep.

(Signature)

Date

2-6-2015



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUTHORIZED COMMITTEE PROXY

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VC-Rep Lamm

Indicate Bill number and your vote Aye or No. If there are amendments, list them by name and number under the bill and indicate a separate vote for each amendment.

BILL/AMENDMENT

AYE

NO

BILL/AMENDMENT

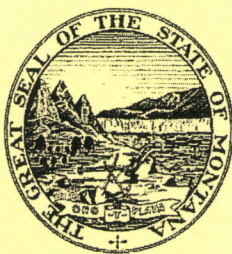
AYE

NO

HB 322 as amended	✓	

Rep. [Signature]
(Signature)

Date 2-6-2015



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUTHORIZED COMMITTEE PROXY

I request to be excused from the House Education

Committee because of other commitments. I desire to leave my proxy vote with:

VC Rep Lamm

Indicate Bill number and your vote Aye or No. If there are amendments, list them by name and number under the bill and indicate a separate vote for each amendment.

BILL/AMENDMENT

AYE

NO

HB 322 as amended	✓	

BILL/AMENDMENT

AYE

NO

Rep.

(Signature)

By [Signature]

Date

2-6-2015

MONTANA House of Representatives
Visitors Register
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Friday, February 6, 2015

HB 321 - Emphasize critical thinking in science education

Sponsor: Rep. Clayton Fiscus

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Info
Rob Jensen			✓	
Charlotta Martin	LWV (MT)		✓	
Paul Andersen			✓	
Scott Taylor			✓	
Chris Fuller			✓	
Joel Thompson			✓	
Patrick Funk			✓	
ERIK SOMERFELD			✓	
Tim McWilliams			✓	
Gerald Spitzels			✓	
Gust Lund			✓	
Patricia Heiser			✓	
Susan Blossom			✓	
Murro Ferro	MEA - MFT		✓	
Jack Hickey			✓	
Debra B. Parnell	OPI		c	
Jeff Lugas	MT Human Rights Network		X	
Ruby Tancil	WCS		✓	
JEANNE UNDERHILL	SELF		✓	
Colin Thomas			X	
Kirk Miller	SAM		X	
Tim McWilliams			X	

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

Niki Andersen Exploration Works X
 Patti Steinmuller myself X

MONTANA House of Representatives
Visitors Register
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Friday, February 6, 2015

HB 313 - Revise education laws

Sponsor: Rep. Edith (Edie) McClafferty

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Info
Andrea Johnson	Townsend School District	x		
Kelly Lynch	MDOC			x
Gov Bellock		x		
Marco Ferro	MEA MPT	L		
Dianne Burke	MDEC	✓		
Jerry Tanker	Self		x	
Kerry Cook	US Gap		✓	
BRIAN SOZAN	AMERESCO	x		
Mike Wozniak	Bozeman Schools	x		
Tom Tolman	McKusky	x		
Larry Markuson	White Sulphur Springs Schools	x		
Steve McCoy	MTSB	x		
Kirk Miller	SAM	x		
Kirk Andersen	Exploration Works		x	
Steve Wilson	MCit		x	
Susie Hamilton	MYSELF	x		

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

February 8, 2014

Regarding: HB 321 - Emphasize critical thinking in science education

Dear House Education Committee,

I attended the hearing and listened to the audio archive. I spoke on record my name and opposition to HB 321, but did not have a chance to provide my reasons.

Here are four reasons I do not support the bill:

- 1) **Governance.** As a governing body, you and those who testify have more productive things to do than determine content or methods in a particular high school subject. Science already encourages critical thinking, and part of science is defending controversial subjects with evidence. There is no conspiracy of science, only out of date information; luckily for us in this electronic age, being out-of-date is no longer an excuse. If a teacher or student is incorrect in stating a position, one can challenge it with evidence.
- 2) **Inaccuracies.** The bill incorrectly frames the issues. Darwin, of course, never theorized on the origin of life, but the origin of species. The "Tree of Life" is an analogy (a map, not the territory) people use to imagine the branches of species leading back to a single trunk. The "Tree of Life" analogy has critics, Craig Venter for one. A well-respected genetic scientist, Venter contends there are many trunks, a forest if you will. By synthesizing DNA from four chemicals, Venter has not only created life from scratch, but also successfully transformed one life form to another through DNA transfer. He theorizes genetic transfer (not mutation) resulted in many branches of life.
 - a. Experiment description: <http://www.jcvi.org/cms/research/projects/first-self-replicating-synthetic-bacterial-cell/overview/>;
 - b. Rationale: <http://www.jcvi.org/cms/fileadmin/site/research/projects/first-self-replicating-bact-cell/fact-sheet2.pdf>;
 - c. Q&A: <http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg22029400.300-craig-venter-why-i-put-my-name-in-synthetic-genomes.html>
- 3) **Currency.** Given the state of Science in February, 2015, topical critical thinking questions are not "what was the origin of life?", but "What life forms will we create, why, when, and to whose benefit?" and "What are the ethical safeguards we have to have in place?"
 - a. Ethics example: <http://www.jcvi.org/cms/fileadmin/site/research/projects/first-self-replicating-bact-cell/fact-sheet1.pdf>.
 - b. Thought provoking news from an English reporter: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/videos/591755.htm>.
- 4) **Supernatural vs Naturalist.** Finally, some characterize the bill as an attempt to introduce supernatural, untestable content into a science class, where the problems by definition in the context of the natural world. Supernatural here is a word describing a manifestation or event attributed to some force beyond scientific understanding or the laws of nature. Critically, the central question here is "Is the supernatural real?" as in, can we test and reproduce supernatural effects. To that end, the methods of science are helpful and can dispel supernatural thinking. For example, the web site "God is Imaginary" <http://godisimaginary.com/> provides 50 proofs of God's nonexistence. I assume this bill would protect those teaching the absence of the supernatural as well as those proposing the necessity of the supernatural. See The Brights web site: <http://www.the-brights.net/>.

Sincerely,
Bill Hallinan
438 Clarke Street
Helena MT 59601
406-449-2701

**ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS**

received via email
on Feb 9, 2015

HB 321

Zylawy, Nadia

From: Dave Puyear <dpuyear@mrea-mt.org>
Sent: Friday, February 06, 2015 12:42 PM
To: Zylawy, Nadia
Cc: dpuyear@mrea-mt.org; jsmith@mrea-mt.org
Subject: HB 313 - MREA Supports with Some Concerns

HB 313
received via email

Categories: Red Category

The Montana Rural Education Association (MREA) SUPPORTS HB 313 sponsored by Rep. McClafferty.

We will be involved in other hearings and unable to attend today's hearing.

We do OPPOSE elements in the bill referring to ANB payments for 19 year old students. MREA has opposed this proposal in various other bills for many years.

We are also concerned about the use of NRD Payments for School Facilities.

Dave Puyear
Executive Director
Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)
P.O. Box 1612
Helena MT 59624
Office: 406.443.2629
Fax: 406.449.0985